Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.4374 — CVRD/Inco)
Candidate case for simplified procedure
(2006/C 215/02)
(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 31 August 2006, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 by which the undertaking Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (CVRD, Brazil) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Inco Limited (Inco, Canada) by way of public bid announced on 11 August 2006.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
   — for CVRD: diversified mining company active in the production of ferrous (iron ore, pellets, manganese ore and ferroalloys) and non-ferrous minerals (kaolin, potash, copper and aluminum);
   — for Inco: mining company active in the production of various nickel products, copper, cobalt and precious metals.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (fax No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.4374 — CVRD/Inco to the following address:

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Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
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